

**From the Fathers (and others):**

When the judge-torturer Sevirus asked the young holy martyr Peter Apseamus: "Of what lineage are you?" Peter replied: "I am a Christian."

You will begin to work on your own self when you stop paying attention to what others around you are doing. If you are concerned with your own self and stop being concerned with others, you will see only your own shortcomings and not even one shortcoming in others...You will be fully aware of your sinfulness and you will struggle to overcome your weaknesses. Then, when you notice someone else's weakness, you will say: 'I haven't overcome my own weaknesses, so how am I to demand it of others?' You ought to constantly observe and evaluate your own self, in order to avoid hidden pride. This is how you will correct yourself."

St. Paisios of Mt. Athos

"Be fearful that you do not become famous because of some work that you do. If they begin to praise you because of your work, do not rejoice or take delight in it, but keep your works secret as much as you can, and do not allow anyone to speak about them."

St. Anthony

The devil is afraid of us when we pray and make sacrifices. He is also afraid when we are humble and good. He is especially afraid when we love Jesus very much. He runs away when we make the sign of the Cross.

St. Anthony the Great

He who flees the vain glory of this world feels the glory of the future life in his soul.

Elder Justin Parvu of Romania

"The most important work that a spiritual wrestler can do is to enter within the heart, there to fight Satan; to hate and repel the thoughts that he inspires and to wage war upon him."

St. Macarius of Egypt

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## St. John Orthodox Church

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*~ January 22, 2017 ~  
Zacchaeus Sunday  
32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

**ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
1663 TUTWILER AVENUE  
MEMPHIS, TN 38107  
(901) 274-4119

[www.stjohnmemphis.org](http://www.stjohnmemphis.org)

[www.orthodoxtupelo.com](http://www.orthodoxtupelo.com)

**V. Rev. Fr. Philip Rogers**  
Pastor

**V. Rev. Fr. John Troy Mashburn, Jr.**  
Pastor Emeritus

**Rev. Fr. Donald Berge**  
Attached

**V. Rev. Fr. Basil Cushman**  
Associate Pastor

**Rev. Fr. Alexander Mackoul**  
Assistant Pastor

**GREAT VESPERS**  
Saturday, 6:00 p.m.

**ORTHROS and CHURCH SCHOOL**  
Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

**DIVINE LITURGY**  
Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

*Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America*  
*"...the Disciples were called Christians first in Antioch!"*  
*Acts 11:26*

## January 22, 2017 Zacchaeus Sunday

**Epistle: 1 Timothy 4:9-15**

**Gospel: Luke 19:1-10**

The Holy Bread for Eucharist is offered by **Lavinia Dumitrache**.

Welcome to all those visiting St. John Orthodox Church. We are honored by your presence. It is our sincere desire that your participation today in the Divine Liturgy will draw you closer to Christ and His Church.

If you are from a non-Orthodox background you may see new things such as icons, incense, the sign of the cross, the veneration of saints, and a great deal of standing. These can be perplexing to the uninitiated eye. Rest assured that everything we do has a solid biblical foundation and a long history among Christian people. Please feel free to participate where you feel comfortable, and feel equally as free only to observe when you prefer.

The Orthodox Church understands the Eucharist, or Lord's Supper, to be – among other things – the paramount expression of Christian unity. While it is our deepest hope that Christendom will one day fulfill Christ's desire for true unity among all those who claim His name (John 17:21), the unfortunate reality of our day is that the various segments of Christendom are not unified with the historic Orthodox faith. *Since participation in the Eucharist expresses a unity with all the dogma and practice of the Orthodox Church, non-Orthodox guests do not receive Holy Communion.* The Holy Eucharist is reserved for those members of the Orthodox Church who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting, and recent confession. All visitors and unprepared Orthodox are invited to partake of the blessed bread as they come forward to venerate the cross at the end of the Liturgy. Thank you for your understanding.

## ST. JOHN CALENDAR

Jan. 22-29 (Wed. & Fri. Fast)

**Sunday** -Annual Parish Business Meeting, coffee hour  
-Teen Group, 5:00 p.m., Bowling, Pre-teens invited!  
-Sons of Thunder, 6:30 p.m., David Twombly's home

**Monday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.

**Tuesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.  
-Men's lunch, 12:00 p.m.  
-Catechumen/Inquirers Class, 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday** -Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.  
-Vespers, 5:30 p.m., parish meal following  
-Wednesday Teaching, 7:00 p.m., Old Testament & Feasts of the Church, Pt. 2

**Thursday** - Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.

**Friday** -First Hour, 6:45 a.m.  
-Third Hour, 9:00 a.m.  
-Sixth Hour, 12:00 p.m.

**Saturday** -Ninth Hour and Great Vespers, 5:50 p.m.

**Sunday** -**Orthros and Church School, 9:00 a.m.**  
-**Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.**

### DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday, January 29, 10:00 a.m.

PRIEST:	Fr. Basil	HOMILY:	Fr. Basil
READER:	John Cameron	USHER:	John Sneed
HOLY BREAD:	Jamie White		
ALTAR SERVERS:	Zach, Eli, Thomas, Paul, James		
COFFEE HOUR:	Harvey family, HELP NEEDED		

### Out of Town Dates for Clergy

Fr. Philip and Fr. Alex will be attending a conference January 26-28

## COMMEMORATIONS

**January 22:** Apostle Timothy; Venerable-martyr Anastasios the Persian; Venerable Joseph the Sanctified of Crete.

**January 23:** Hieromartyr Clement, bishop of Ancyra; Martyr Agathangelos; Paulinos, bishop of Nola.

**January 24:** Hieromartyr Babylas of Sicily; Venerable Xenia the merciful of Rome; Venerable Philonos, bishop of Karpason; Venerable Neophytos the recluse of Cyprus; Venerable Dionysios of Olympos, abbot of Philotheou monastery on Athos; Hieromartyr Felician, bishop of Folingio in Umbria, Italy; Blessed Xenia of St. Petersburg, fool-for-Christ.

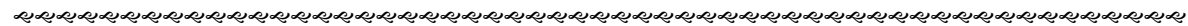
**January 25:** Gregory the Theologian, archbishop of Constantinople; Venerable Demetrios; New-martyr Auxentios of Constantinople.

**January 26:** Venerable Xenophon, his wife, Mary, and their two sons, Arkadios and John, of Constantinople; translation of the relics of Venerable Theodore the Studite.

**January 27:** The translation of the relics of John Chrysostom; Marciana the empress; New-martyr Demetrios of Constantinople; Venerable Clement.

**January 28:** Venerable Ephraim the Syrian; Venerable Palladios of Antioch; Martyr Charita; Venerable Theodosios of Totma; Isaac the Syrian, bishop of Ninevah.

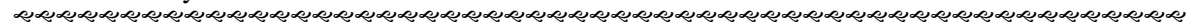
**January 29:** The translation of the relics of Ignatios the God-bearer of Antioch; New-martyr Demetrios of Chios.



### **DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **January 22-29**

Sunday	1 Timothy	4:9-15	Luke	19:1-10
Monday	Philippians	3:30-4:3	Mark	2:23-3:5
Tuesday	Galatians	5:22-6:2	Mark	6:1-7
Wednesday	Hebrews	7:26-8:2	John	10:9-16
Thursday	Ephesians	4:14-17	Mark	6:30-45
Friday	Hebrews	7:26-8:2	John	10:9-16
Saturday	Galatians	5:22-6:2	Luke	6:17-23
Sunday	2 Corinthians	6:16-7:1	Matthew	15:21-28



**Pray for our catechumens: Memphis** –Justin Bowles; Wendy, Brody, & Eli Weatherall; Lucas Whatley; Chelsea Yadron & Gabriel de la Torre.

**Please remember in your prayers** - Mary Clark, Ann Hicks (Dianna Hildebrand’s mother), Charles Ingram, Ted Greathouse (Shelley Snowden’s father), Allen Sudduth (Paul’s father), Janet Berry, Nicholas Hill, Mary Sue Johnson (Jason Guntharpe’s grandmother), Angela Leopold (pregnant), Chelsea Yadron (pregnant), Sarah Finley (pregnant), Caitlin Romero (pregnant), Ernestine Pruitt (Nicholas Hill’s mother), Brenda Thomas, Doris & Jim (Brenda Thomas’ family), Dot Lawson (Lawson Bowick’s grandmother), Lisa Catlett (Fr. Don & Kh. Martha’s daughter), Glenda Brooks, Anna Grace (Joyce Grossman’s granddaughter), Elfreida Drobashovsky, Maria Bellaflores, those suffering in the Middle East, most especially the Christians.



## ST. JOHN COMMUNITY



**Teen Group – Pre-teens, ages 9-12**, are invited to join the teens this Sunday from 5-7 for a night of bowling at Billy Hardwick Lanes. Teen group will cover the cost of bowling.

**Parish Business Meeting** – Our annual parish business meeting will be held during coffee hour today. Please make every effort to attend.

The **Sons of Thunder** book club will meet tonight, 6:30 p.m., at David Twombly's home. They will be discussing the book *Mother Maria Skobtsova: Essential Writings*. All men are welcome.

**Coffee Hour Hosts Needed** – The dates for the first quarter of 2017 can now be found on the St. John website under Parish – Online Sign Ups and Assignments. There are still slots available!! This is an excellent way to serve our parish and fellow parishioners!

**Theophany House Blessings** – Be sure to sign up in the parish hall for the times and days which are most convenient for your family to have your home blessed by one of the priests.

**Dinner & A Show 2017** is scheduled for Friday, February 10th. See insert for details!

## Master Plan Updates

**Progress on final drawings/contractor/etc.** – All the permits have been acquired and the site is being prepped for work! As the crew works on demo, please do not exit the building on the east side. Picture updates will be sent out and posted on our website so that you can follow along with the journey! Please, keep this important project in your prayers!

**Fund raising** – Thank you for your help thus far!! There are pledge cards for the building fund available downstairs. Every little bit helps!

## Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Namedays

<b>Sunday, 1/22:</b>	<i>Apostle Timothy: Dn. Tim, Tim Elliott, Tim Stanek</i>
<b>Monday, 1/23:</b>	Jon Autrey
<b>Tuesday, 1/24:</b>	Dn. Tim
<b>Thursday, 1/26:</b>	Anniversary: Fr. John & Kh. Pamela
<b>Friday, 1/27:</b>	Aleksandra Klimskowski, William Maas
<b>Saturday, 1/28:</b>	Fadi Ibrahim

## Women of St. John ~ AWSJ

- January 29** ~Business Meeting during Coffee Hour  
**February 6** ~AWSJ Book Club will be discussing *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent Krueger  
**February 9** ~Women's Teaching, 10:00 a.m., Elinor Crenshaw's home

### teen group

**TODAY:** TEEN GROUP, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., Bowling @ Billy Hardwick Lanes on Quince. Pre-teens (ages 9-12) invited!

**Next week:** 4:30 – 7:00 p.m., Campfire and Journey through Liturgy

#### UPCOMING:

##### Teen Deanery Retreat

**When:** February 3-5      **Cost:** \$100

**Where:** Camp Hopewell, Oxford, MS

### Library Lines

Sometimes saints capture our attention simply because of their unusual names. Tuesday we honor two Xenias (1/24). Blessed Xenia of St. Petersburg was widowed in her mid twenties. She was considered a fool for Christ, partially because she dressed like her deceased husband and asked to be called by his name. She gave her inheritance away and roamed the poor sections of the city. She spent her nights praying in a field outside of town and brought bricks to a new church being built near the Smolensk cemetery. She foresaw events and loved to visit homes with children. Her intercessions are asked for those who are ill and for people seeking jobs. After you pray before her icon in our nave, visit the library display cart and see *The Life and Miracles of Blessed Xenia* (HAG XEN HTM), *Recently Orthodox Canonized Saints* (HAG - - - DEV), and "Our Blessed Mother Xenia" in *The Handmaiden*, fall 1997, p. 31.

St. Xenia of Rome left her family home with her two devoted servants to escape an arranged marriage. She founded a women's monastery and comforted the poor and

bereaved. Her mentor was St. Euthymius (1/20). At her death in the 5<sup>th</sup> century, a shining wreath of stars surrounding a cross appeared and remained until her burial. Her relics brought healing to many.

Thursday we commemorate St. Xenophon and his wife Maria and sons (1/26). They were fifth century, pious parents who sent their children to Beirut for schooling. The boys were shipwrecked and washed ashore at different places. They were presumed dead by their parents and independently became monks. Years later, Xenophon and Maria learned their sons had survived and joined them in the monastic life.

Several times a day throughout Lent we repeat the prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian (1/28). He was a contemporary of St. Basil the Great who wanted to ordain him to the priesthood. Ephraim refused considering himself unworthy. In his youth he had a reputation for fighting because of his quick temper. He turned his life around and went to live with the hermits, becoming a disciple of St. James of Nisibis. This saint saw promise in the young man and took him with him to the First Ecumenical Council in 325. St. Ephraim was given the gift of teaching. He became a strict ascetic and continually studied the Scriptures. Besides his famous Lenten prayer, he wrote a commentary on the Penateuch and prayers to the Holy Trinity, the Son of God and the Most Holy Theotokos. He also composed hymns for the Twelve Great Feasts of the Lord and funeral hymns. Look in St. John Library for his *Hymns On Paradise* and *A Spiritual Psalter*; both have spine code (PAT EPH).

### PERIODICALLY SPEAKING

You don't have to be around here too long before you begin to hear or read about the Optina Elders. Just who are these men and what is Optina? Optina Monastery, south of Moscow, renewed the hesychastic tradition in 18<sup>th</sup> century Russia. Enrich your life by uncovering the lives and wisdom of these men in:

*The Orthodox Word* # 117 Jul-Aug 1984 pp. 148& 156  
# 122 May-Jun 1985 pp. 125 & 129  
# 267 Jul-Aug 2009 pp. 157 & 199  
*Road to Emmaus* # 44 winter 2011 p. 3.

St. John Library also offers books about and by Elders Anatoly(1/25), Nektary (4/29), Anthony(8/7), Barsanuphius(4/1), Joseph(5/9), Leonid(10/11), Macarius (9/7), and Moses(6/16). Check out *Living Without Hypocrisy* (PAT - - - OPT) where you will find their spiritual counsels arranged by subject. Look up their names in the library's subject catalog to find books about each of them.